

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Biological Survey

DIVISION OF INFORMATION

FOR RELEASE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1939.

63 Federal Aid in Wildlife
Projects Approved for 30 States

Though only one-fourth of the fiscal year has elapsed, 30 States already have obtained approval of 63 projects designed to benefit their wildlife, under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, the Bureau of Biological Survey today reported to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes. This represents more than the total approved during the last year when 58 projects were approved for 31 States.

Under terms of the Federal Aid Act, the United States pays 75 percent of the costs of approved projects, and the States 25 percent. Federal funds are derived from the 10 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition.

Of the 63 projects approved thus far this year, 23 cover research problems designed to develop better techniques of wildlife management; 25 are of a developmental character, by which the States will improve habitat conditions for wildlife, fence and post refuge areas, restock lands deficient in game populations, and build new dams and other structures; and 15 are to acquire land for State game management areas.

The 30 States whose Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration projects have been approved this year are Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, and Missouri.

Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

"The enthusiasm shown by the States for this cooperative program is splendid evidence of the foresight of the sponsors of the legislation in making these wildlife activities possible," the Survey reported.

Significance was attached to the fact that the number of projects approved already exceeds last year's total. Survey officials said it indicated that the States consider the result of the research and other activities sponsored by the Federal Aid Act beneficial to wildlife to an extent that warrants this increased interest for further participation.